

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, M.S. 19-31
Sacramento, CA 95814



October 3, 1985

• ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 85-99

TO: All County Welfare Departments
All Public and Private Adoption Agencies
All SDSS Adoptions District Offices

SUBJECT: Aid for the Adoption of Children/Adoption Assistance
Program (AAC/AAP)

In April, 1985, the State Department of Social Services conducted a survey of Aid for the Adoption of Children/Adoption Assistance Program (AAC/AAP) families residing in states other than California. The survey was developed to identify difficulties experienced by these families with the use of California Medi-Cal cards. This notice is to inform you of the results of the survey and the remedial actions being taken by the Department. Of the 197 surveys mailed to out-of-state AAC/AAP recipients, 121 (62%) were returned. Of the returned surveys, 112 (93%) reported problems obtaining prior authorization and/or reimbursement for services since most out-of-state medical providers will not honor California Medi-Cal cards.

We have informed the Medi-Cal Division Department of Health Services of this situation and are working to resolve the problems. In addition, we are studying the feasibility of joining the Interstate Compact on Adoption Medical Assistance (ICAMA) which would ensure provision of medical services to AAC/AAP recipients as they would be issued medical cards from the state in which they reside.

Because those who are incurring out-of-pocket medical expenses and whose AAC/AAP grants are less than the California foster care rate may request an increased grant to assist in meeting these expenses (Welfare and Institutions Code Section 16121(a)), you

may be receiving requests for increased AAC/AAP benefits from these parents and should advise your staff accordingly. We will keep you informed of any further developments. Should you have any questions regarding this notice, please call Ms. Marsha McNeil, Chief, Adoptions Program Development Bureau at (916) 322-4228.



LOREN D. SUTER
Deputy Director
Adult and Family Services Division

cc: CWDA